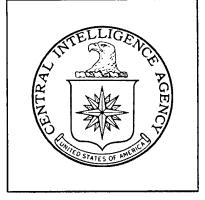
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DIRECTORATE OF INTELLIGENCE

Industrial Facilities (Non-Military)

Basic Imagery Interpretation Report

I-yang Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant I-yang, China

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ABSTRACT

The primary function of I-yang Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant is the production of nitrogenous fertilizer, probably ammonium nitrate. Liquid/aqueous ammonia is a secondary product.

The plant was in the initial stage of construction when it was first observed on photography in February 1966. The production facilities were constructed by June 1971, the date of the latest photography. The plant has not been observed in operation.

This report includes a photograph, a process flow chart, and a chronological summary of construction and operational status.

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INTRODUCTION

I-yang Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant is located 2 nautical miles east of I-yang, Honan Province (see Figure 1). Steam is provided by the collocated steam plant. Electric power is received from the regional grid through a collocated transformer substation.

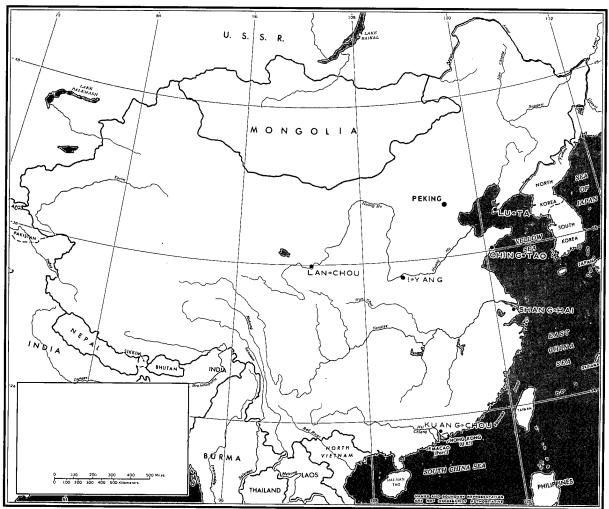


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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BASIC DESCRIPTION

The fertilizer plant occupies 40 acres in an irregular shaped area measuring 1,500 by 1,300 feet overall (see Figure 2). It is served by road and by a spur from the Lo-yang to I-yang rail line. The plant is secured by a wall.

Operational Functions

The primary function of the plant is the production of nitrogenous fertilizer, probably ammonium nitrate. Liquid/aqueous ammonia is a secondary product. The plant is designed to use water gas as the source of nitrogen and hydrogen for the synthesis of ammonia. The probable nitric acid plant differs from the standard design observed at other plants. The process flow for the products is shown in Figure 3.

Construction and Operational Status

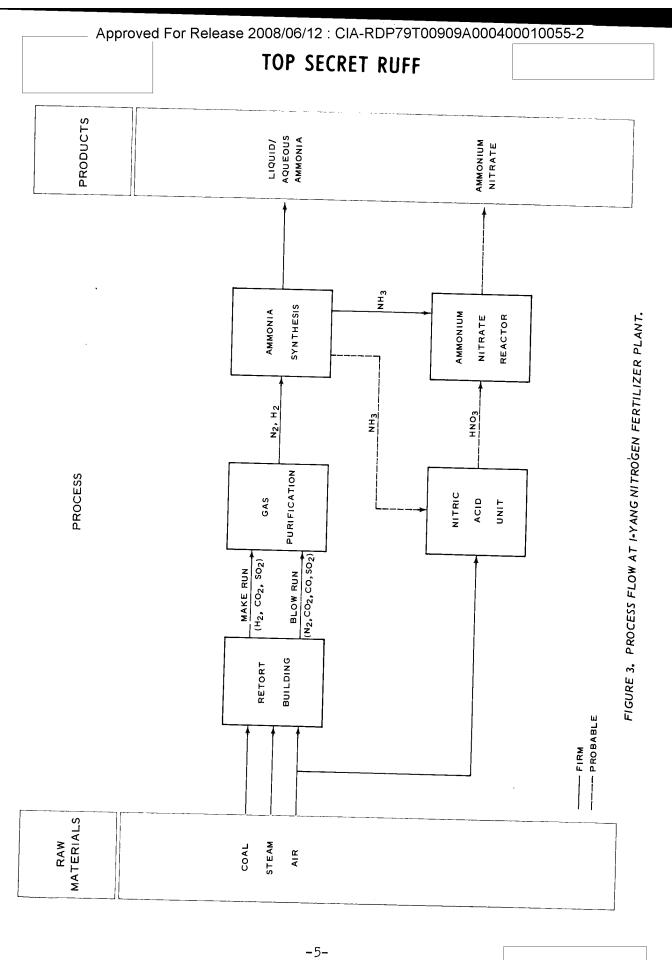
Initial construction activity for the plant was observed in February 1966. At that time only six minor support buildings were present. Between February 1966 and June 1971, the production facilities were constructed. They include the retort building, the gas purification equipment, the ammonia synthesis building, and the probable nitric acid and ammonium nitrate reactor. As of June 1971, the plant has not been observed in operation, although coal has been observed in the coal receiving and storage area.

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